AUTODOC CLUB

How to change front suspension strut on **SKODA FABIA (NJ3)** – replacement guide

SIMILAR VIDEO TUTORIAL

This video shows the replacement procedure of a similar car part on another vehicle

Important!

This replacement procedure can be used for:
SKODA FABIA (NJ3) 1.0, SKODA FABIA (NJ3) 1.2 TSI, SKODA FABIA (NJ3) 1.4 TDI, SKODA FABIA (NJ3) 1.6, SKODA FABIA (NJ3) 1.0 TSI, SKODA FABIA (NJ3) 1.4 TSI R5

The steps may slightly vary depending on the car design.

This tutorial was created based on the replacement procedure for a similar car part on: VW Polo Saloon (602, 604, 612, 614) 1.6

REPLACEMENT: SUSPENSION STRUT – SKODA FABIA (NJ3). LIST OF THE TOOLS YOU'LL NEED:

- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Combination spanner #21
- HEX bit No.H6.
- XZN socket bit # 14
- Drive socket # 16
- Drive socket # 18
- Drive socket # 21
- Drive socket # 36
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Torque wrench
- Tap wrench
- Shock absorber socket
- Crow bar
- Hydraulic strut spring compressor
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Fender cover
- Wheel chock

Buy tools

Replacement: suspension strut – SKODA FABIA (NJ3). Professionals recommend:

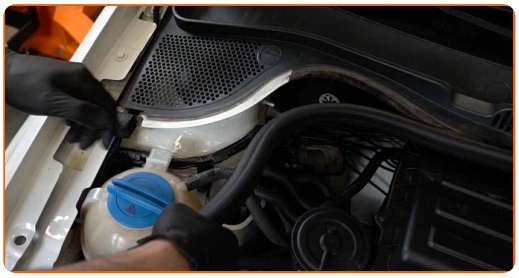
- Both shock struts of the front suspension should be replaced simultaneously.
- The replacement procedure is identical for the left and right shock struts of the front suspension.
- All work should be done with the engine stopped.

REPLACEMENT: SUSPENSION STRUT – SKODA FABIA (NJ3). USE THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE:

1 Open the bonnet.

2 Use a fender protection cover to prevent damaging paintwork and plastic parts of the car.

3 Remove the cowl grille seal.



4 Raise up and remove the cowl grille.

5 Remove the shock strut mount cap.

6 Clean the fasteners of the shock strut upper mount. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

7 Loosen the upper fastener of the shock strut mount. Use a combination spanner #21. Use HEX No.H6. Use a ratchet wrench.

8 Secure the wheels with chocks.

9 Loosen the wheel mounting bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.

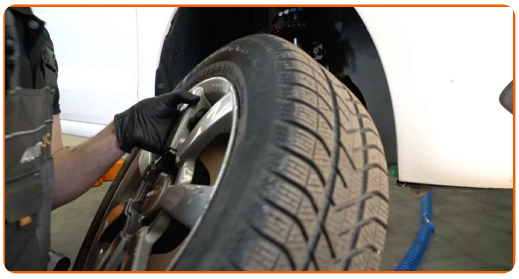
10 Raise the front of the car and secure on supports.

11 Unscrew the wheel bolts.

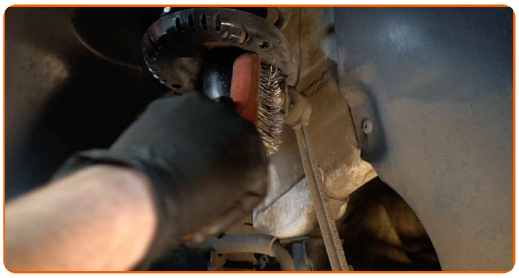
Replacement: suspension strut – SKODA FABIA (NJ3). AUTODOC recommends:

- To avoid injury, hold up the wheel when unscrewing the bolts.

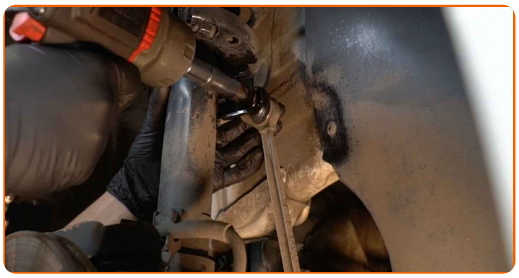
12 Remove the wheel.



13 Clean the stabiliser link fasteners. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

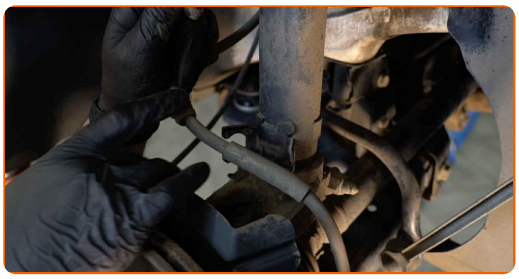


14 Unscrew the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the shock strut. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench.



15 Remove the stabilizer rod.

16 Disconnect the wiring and the brake hose from the bracket on the shock strut. Use a crowbar.

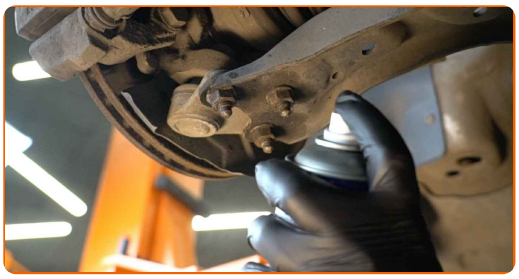


17 Loosen the fastener of the driveshaft. Use a drive socket #36. Use a tap wrench.

18 Clean the fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

19 Unscrew the lower fastener connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use XZN #14. Use a drive socket #18. Use a tap wrench. Use a ratchet wrench.

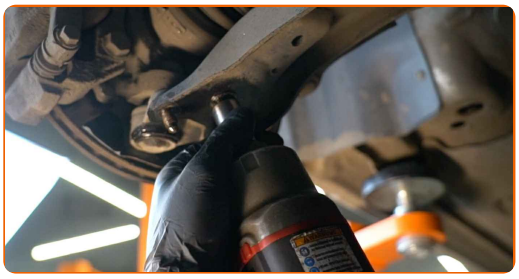
20 Clean all joints of the arm. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



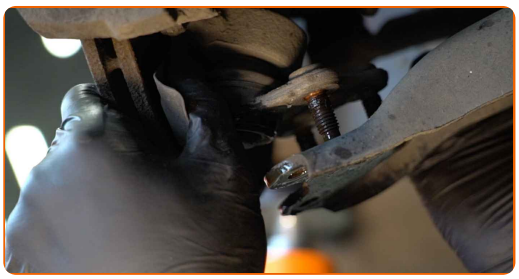
AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: suspension strut – SKODA FABIA (NJ3). After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.
- Wear protective goggles.

21 Unscrew the fastener connecting the ball joint to the suspension control arm. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench.



22 Disconnect the spherical joint from the arm.



23 Unscrew the fastener connecting the drive shaft to the wheel hub. Use a drive socket #36.

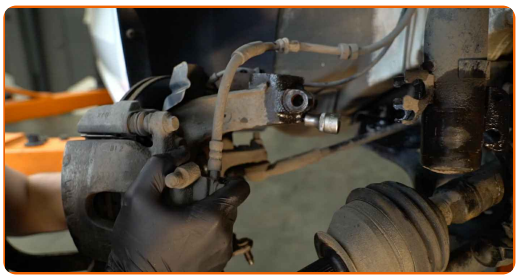
24 Remove the drive shaft.

25 Prop up the steering knuckle. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.

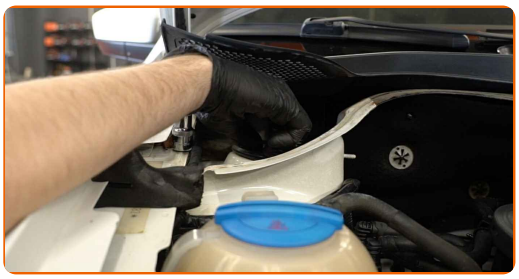
26 Remove the fastening bolt.

27 Release the lower fastener connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a special drive socket to remove the shock absorber. Use a ratchet wrench.

28 Disconnect the steering knuckle from the shock absorber strut.



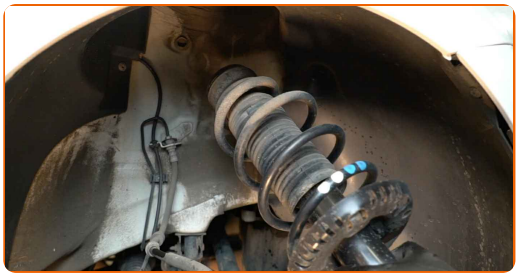
29 Unscrew the top fastening of the shock strut mount.



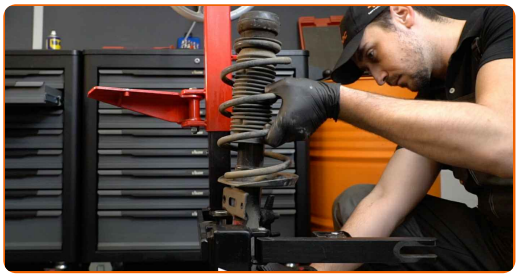
Replacement: suspension strut – SKODA FABIA (NJ3). AUTODOC experts recommend:

- To avoid injuries, hold the shock strut when undoing the fastening bolts.

30 Remove the suspension strut.



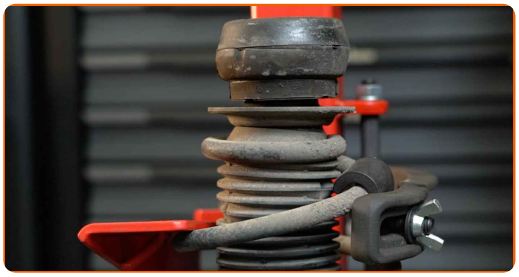
31 Set the shock absorber strut on the spring compressor tool.



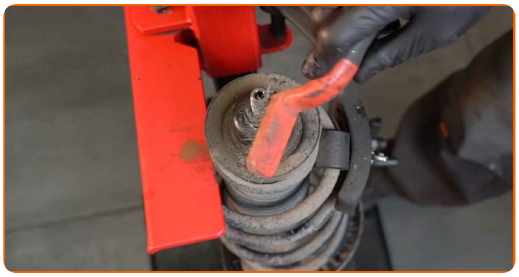
Replacement: suspension strut – SKODA FABIA (NJ3). Tip from AUTODOC:

- Note that when using a spring compressor, spring coils need to be securely gripped, compressing the spring on the opposite sides.
- Ensure the correct position of the spring in the retainer.
- Make sure that the spring coils tightly entered the lock handles.

32 Compress the spring.



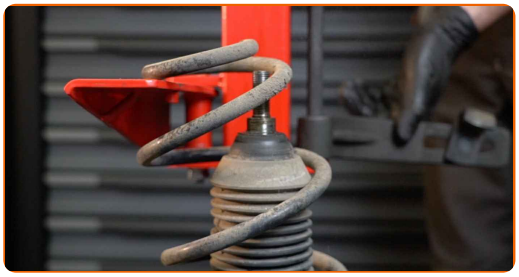
33 Treat the shock strut rod. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



34 Remove the strut piston rod nut. Use HEX No.H6. Use a drive socket #21. Use a ratchet wrench.

35 Remove the top strut mount.

36 Release the coil spring.



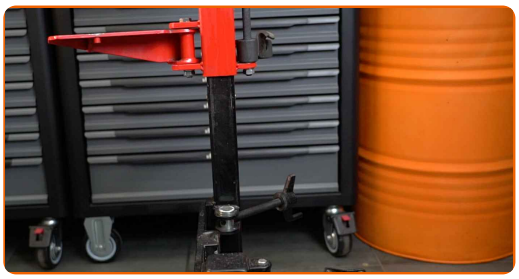
37 Remove the spring.

38 Remove the shock absorber dust cap and the bump stop.

AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: suspension strut – SKODA FABIA (NJ3). Carefully inspect the mount, the boot, and the bump stop of the shock absorber. Replace if necessary.

39 Remove the old shock absorber from the hydraulic coil spring compressor.



Replacement: suspension strut – SKODA FABIA (NJ3). Tip from AUTODOC experts:

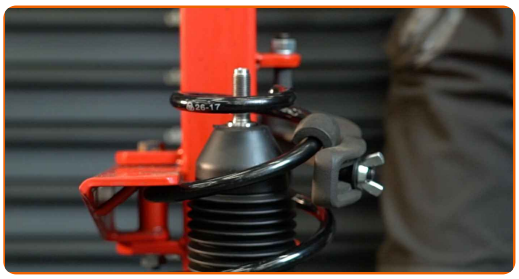
- Before installing a new shock absorber you should pump it manually 3-5 times.

40 Install the new shock absorber on the hydraulic coil spring compressor.

41 Install the dust sleeve and the bump stop on the new shock absorber.

42 Install the spring on the shock absorber.

43 Compress the spring.



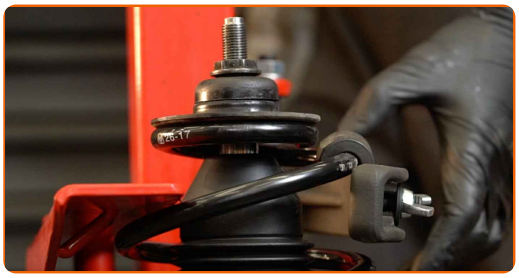
44 Install the upper strut mount and the strut mount bearing.

45 Tighten the shock strut piston rod nut. Use HEX No.H6. Use a drive socket #21. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 60 Nm torque.

Replacement: suspension strut – SKODA FABIA (NJ3). Tip:

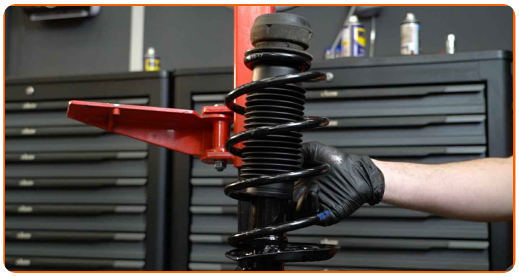
- Check to make sure the spring is positioned correctly. Avoid its misalignment.

46 Decompress the spring.



47 Treat the shock strut rod. Use copper grease.

48 Remove the assembled shock strut.



49 Install the shock strut into the wheel arch.

50 Screw the top fastening of the shock strut mount. Do not tighten it.

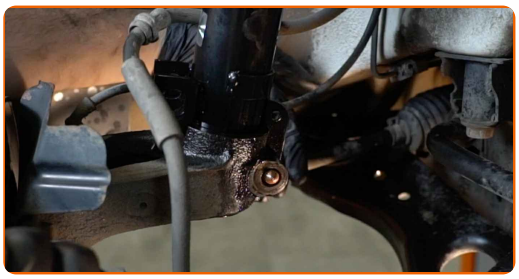
Replacement: suspension strut – SKODA FABIA (NJ3). AUTODOC recommends:

- To avoid injuries, hold the shock strut when screwing the fastening bolts in.

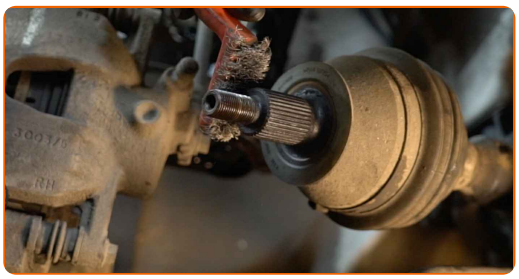
51 Treat the shock strut mounting seat on the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

52 Fix the shock absorber strut on the steering knuckle.

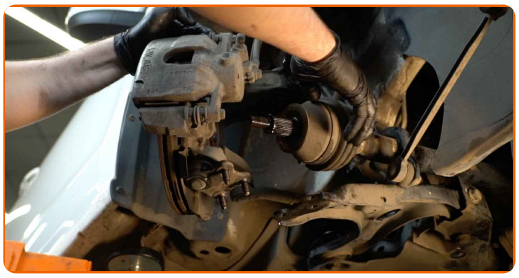
53 Install the fastening bolt.



54 Clean the splines of the drive shaft CV joint. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



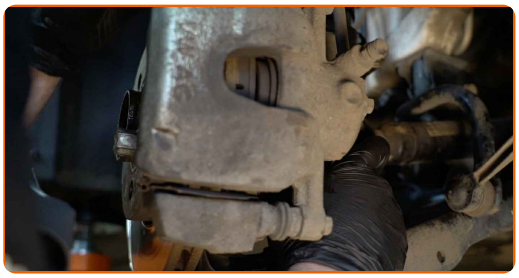
55 Remove the support from under the steering knuckle.



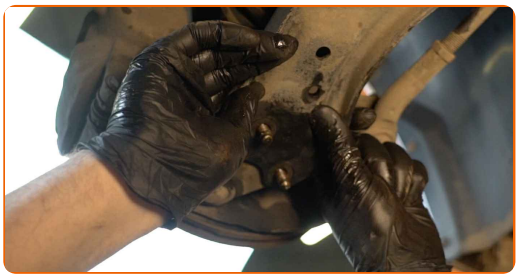
AUTODOC recommends:

- SKODA FABIA (NJ3) – Do not lower the transmission jack sharply to avoid damaging components and mechanisms of the car.

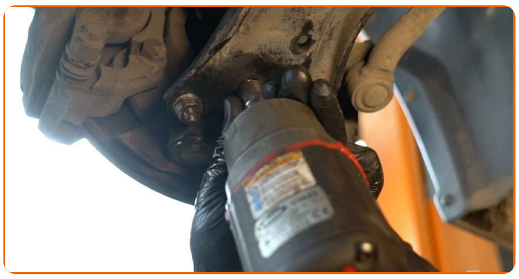
56 Mount the drive shaft into the wheel hub.



57 Attach the ball joint to the control arm.

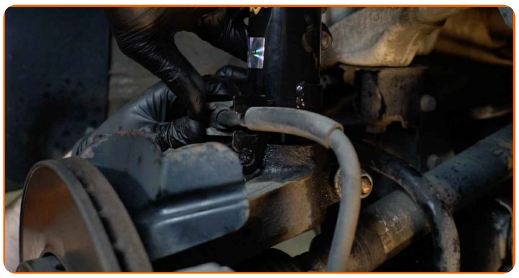


58 Screw the fasteners of the ball joint. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench.

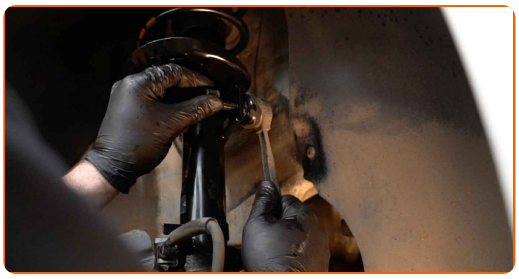


59 Screw the nut of the drive shaft. Use a drive socket #36. Use a ratchet wrench.

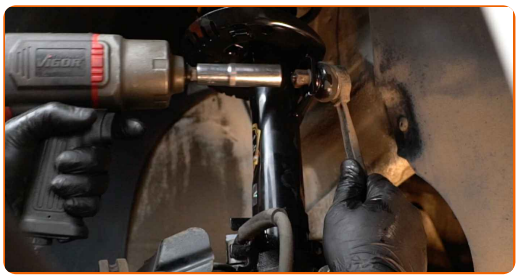
60 Fasten the brake hose on the strut. Connect the fastener of the ABS sensor cable to the shock absorber strut. Use a crowbar.



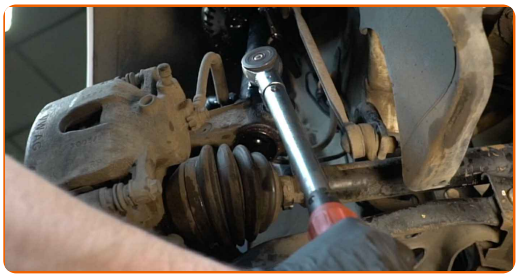
61 Install the transverse stabilizer link.



62 Tighten the stabiliser link fastener. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench.



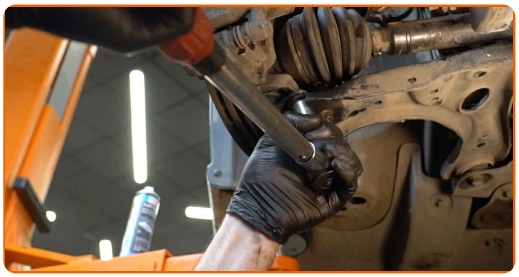
63 Tighten the lower fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #18. Use XZN #14. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 60 Nm torque.+90°



AUTODOC recommends:

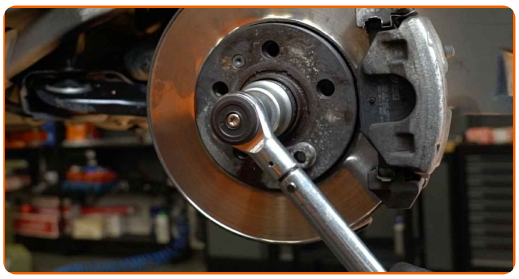
- Important! Be sure to use new fasteners.

64 Tighten the ball joint fastener. Use a drive socket #16. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 60 nm torque.



65 Tighten the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the shock strut. Use a drive socket #16. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 40 Nm torque.

66 Tighten the drive shaft nut. Use a drive socket #36. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 50 Nm torque.+45°

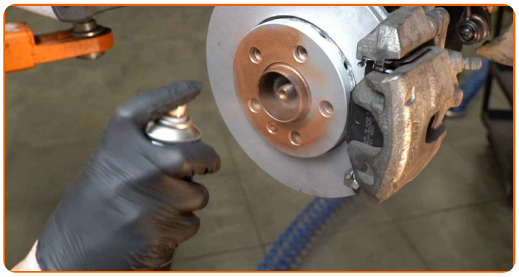


AUTODOC recommends:

- Important! Be sure to use new fasteners.

67 Treat the shock strut fasteners. Treat all joints of the arm. Use copper grease.

68 Treat the surface where the brake disc contacts the wheel rim. Use copper grease.

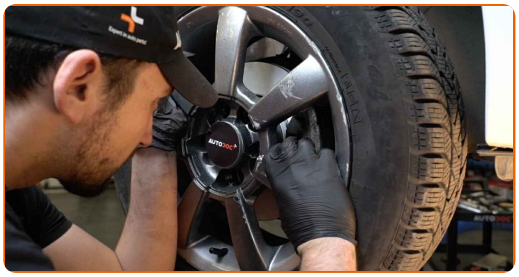


69 Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.

Replacement: suspension strut – SKODA FABIA (NJ3). Professionals recommend:

- After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

70 Install the wheel.



AUTODOC recommends:

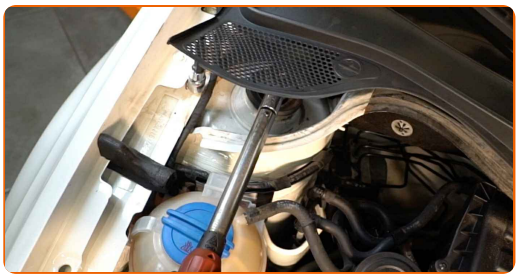
- Important! Hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts. SKODA FABIA (NJ3)

71 Screw in the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.

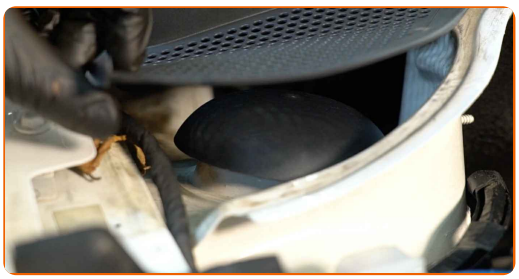
72 Lower the car and working in a cross order, tighten the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 120 Nm torque.

73 Remove the jacks and chocks.

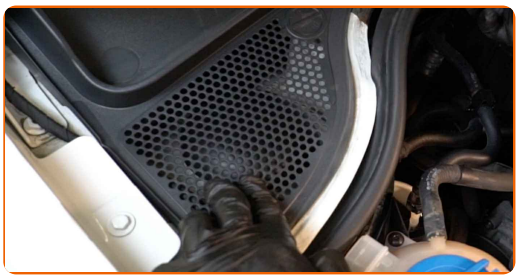
74 Tighten the upper fastener of the shock absorber strut mount. Use a combination spanner #21. Use a drive socket #21. Use HEX No.H6. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 60 nm torque.



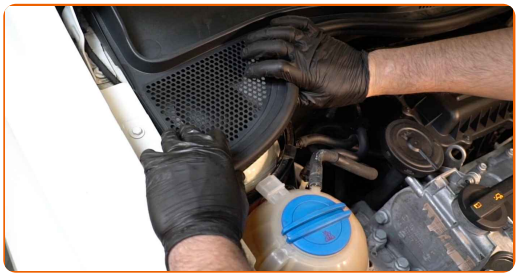
75 Install the shock strut mount cap.



76 Install and secure the cowl grille.



77 Install the cowl grille seal.



78 Remove the fender protection cover.

79 Close the hood.

WELL DONE!

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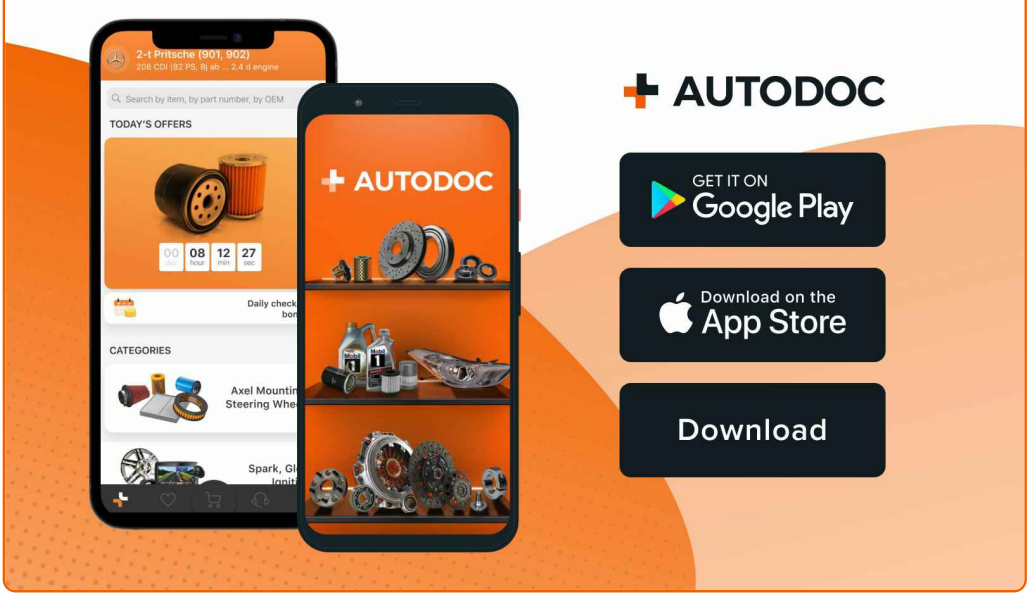

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